

AUSTRALIA at the 2003 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS in MONTE CARLO

Can USA1 win the treble this year? USA1 have won the Women's and Seniors and lead the Open with 32 boards to play.

Online Vugraph is at www.bridgebase.com.

TRANSNATIONAL TEAMS

8 of 74 teams made the Quarter-Finals after 15 short matches:

		Place	VPs	
Jansma	Neth	1 st	291	
Brachman	USA	2 nd	282	The Defending Champions
Zhuang	China	3 rd	276	
Lasut	Indo	4 th	265	
Milner	USA	5 th	253	
Gamrath	Denmk	6 th	251	
Lavazza	Italy	7 th	251	
De Botton	Eng	8 th	250	

243 16th NZ T. Jacob - R. Jedrychowski, S. Burgess- A.Bach, M.Cornell - M. Mayer
222 39th ENG/AUS H. Dhondy team including T. Antoff
221 43rd AUS P.Crittler, P.Evans, J & E Quittner
209 51st ENG/AUS C. Gregson team including Ishmael Del'monte and Rob Fruewirth
198 63rd AUS M. Scudder, I. Glander, B. Folkard - R. Kaplan, L. Kalmin - E. Urbach

The non-qualifiers played one more match (Round 16) for final placings as follows:

261 13th NZ T. Jacob - R. Jedrychowski, S. Burgess- A.Bach, M.Cornell - M. Mayer
236 37th ENG/AUS H. Dhondy team including T. Antoff
221 56th AUS P.Crittler, P.Evans, J & E Quittner
225 52nd ENG/AUS C. Gregson team including Ishmael Del'monte and Rob Fruewirth
214 59th AUS M. Scudder, I. Glander, B. Folkard - R. Kaplan, L. Kalmin - E. Urbach

Quarter-Finals: Jan Jansma 99 beat Gamrath 71, Brachman 111 beat Janet de Botton 18, Zhuang 49 beat Milner 37, Lavazza 68 came from behind to beat Lasut 58.

Semi-Finals: Zhuang 91 beat Brachman 40, Lavazza 55 beat Jansma 45.

Final: Lavazza 45 lead Zhuang 29. Lavazza includes Mme Lavazza, Ferraro, d'Avossa, Lanzarotti and Buratti. Zhuang is from China.

BERMUDA BOWL

Australia: Ishmael Del'monte - Rob Fruewirth (D-F), Bobby Richman - Matthew Thomson (R-T), Theo Antoff - Al Simpson (A-S), non playing captain John Roberts.

Australia qualified in 6th place out of 22 and lost to Italy in the Quarter Final.

Qualifiers in order: Italy, USA1, Poland, Norway, Ch Taipei, Aus, Bulgaria, USA2 (by 1 VP).
Non-qualifiers included: Canada, Indonesia, China, Sweden (big surprise) and NZ (16th).

REAL DATUMS (64 pairs) from Thursday's Daily Bulletin

1st: Lauria-Versace Italy 224 boards +1.04 IMPs per board

7th Demuy-Wolpert Canada 208 boards +0.69 They played in Canberra's Youth Champs in January.

11th A-S Aus 160 bds +0.49

17th R-T Aus 272 bds +0.31

(but they played a lot, as Australia's worst results happened when they sat out)

25th D-F Aus 224 bds +0.18

34th Bach-Burgess NZ 240 bds +0.02

43rd Helgemo-Helness Norw 224 bds -0.23

40th Cornell-Mayer NZ 224 bds -0.25

54th J-J NZ 208 bds -0.47.

QUARTER- FINALS - after 96 of 96 boards:

	C/F	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	65-80	81-96	Total
Aus	0	24	13	45	49	15	34	180
		RT AS	DF RT	AS DF		RT AS	DF RT	
Italy	6.5	57	77	46	30	57	19	292.5
		LV NF	BD NF	LV BD		LV NF	BD NF	

LV = Lauria-Versace, BD = Bocchi-Duboin, NF = Nunes - Fantoni (2002 World Pairs Champs)

USA1 323 beat Ch Taipei 148, USA2 262 beat Poland 156, Norway 261.5 beat Bulgaria 192.

SEMI-FINALS: Italy beat Norway and USA1 beat USA2.

GRAND FINAL: After 96 of 128 boards, USA1 242 lead Italy 205.

Bronze medal went to USA2.

See Appendix 1 (below) for details of Board 60 of the Grand Final. Bridge journalists are welcome to use the hand and/or analysis in Appendix 1.

L-V had their second revoke in the last few days in the fourth set of the Final. The Americans Hamman and Soloway simply told them to put the card back and let play go on, but the Director later overruled this act of sportsmanship by the Americans, giving Italy one extra IMP.

Daily Bulletin #3 reports on Australia's Open Round 1 match vs USA1.

Daily Bulletin #6 reports on Australia's Open Round 12 match vs China.

VENICE CUP

Australia: Inez Glanger - Marcia Scudder (G-S), Berri Folkard - Rena Kaplan (F-K),
Lynn Kalmin - Elli Urbach (K-U), NPC Pauline Evans.

Qualifiers in order: China, USA1, USA2, Neth, Germ, Ch Taipei, Canada, Sweden (no surprises).

Non-qualifiers included: England, Australia.

Q/F after 96 of 96 boards: China 266 beat Sweden 187, USA1 271.5 beat Ch Taipei 205.5,
USA2 234 beat Canada 175, Neth 232 beat Germany 195.

SEMI-FINALS: USA1 251.5 vs USA2 179, and China 279 vs Neth 202.

GRAND FINAL: After 96 of 96 boards: USA1 229.3 defeated China 210. USA1 win the Gold Medal for J Seamon-Molson, T Sokolow, K Wei-Sender, B Kennedy, J Levin, S Picus. Bronze medal went to Netherlands.

DATUMS (53 pairs):

1st: Gu Zhang from China +0.94 IMPs per board
24th G-S +0.09 for 192 boards
28th F-K +0.05 for 176 boards
45th K-U -0.43 for 176 boards

WORLD SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

Australia: Ron Klinger - Zoli Nagy (K-N), John Lester - Gabi Lorentz (L-L), Bill Haughie - Alan Walsh (H-W), npc David Stern.

Won by USA1. Just a round robin. 7th Australia. 2nd France, 3rd USA2, 4th Indonesia.

Daily Bulletin #4 reports on Australia's Round 5 match vs Japan.

Daily Bulletin #9 reports on Australia's Round 13 match vs Israel.

DATUMS:

1st Romik - Levit Israel + 1.05 IMPs per board over 288 boards
13th L-L +0.30 over 216 boards
20th K-N +0.16 over 240 boards
27th H-W -0.05 over 192 boards.

APPENDIX 1 - Board 60 of the Open and Women's Grand Finals

Dealer West, All Vul

J1092
Q863
6
K764
A K762
KJ1097 A
A82 KJ105
10985 AQJ2
Q854
542
Q9743
3

Lauria-Versace for Italy stopped in 3NT making five on a spade lead.

In the Women's Final:

W	N	E	S
Levin	Yalan	Picus	Gu Ling
1H	P	1S	P
2C	P	4C	P

4S P 6C All Pass

Sue Picus's 4C was Roman Keycard Gerber and 4S showed two of the five keycards for clubs

For China, Yalan Zhang led D6, won by dummy's jack. Holding Kxxx in trumps, Yalan could have deduced that, as two keycards cannot be missing on this auction, partner cannot have DA, thus SJ was a far safer lead.

Jill Levin won SA, played a heart to the ace and ruffed a spade. Now C10 held, and a club to the jack won. Had Gu held CKxx, she would have ducked C10 then won CJ and played her third club, leaving declarer a trick short. Levin continued by ruffing a spade and playing a diamond to claim 12 tricks.

In the Open, Rodwell-Meckstroth bid 1H - 2C (strong enquiry) - 3C - 4S (RKCB for clubs) - 5D - 6C.

South (Nunes) led a diamond to declarer's jack. Very quickly, Meckstroth embarked on a superior line. He crossed to SA, played C5 to the jack to solve his entry problems, ruffed a spade with C8 and led C10. Fantoni covered with the king, so Meckstroth crossed to C9 and soon afterwards claimed 1370.

Wen Fei (partnering Hong Lin Wang) for China was given a greater challenge by SJ lead against her 6C contract. Wen Fei won the ace and thought for a long time. Then DA and a small diamond towards dummy. "Ruffing air" seems unpromising, so Molson-Seamon (partnering Sokolow) threw a heart (is a spade better?) as dummy's king won. SK to pitch the diamond, HA, spade ruff with C8, HK, HJ ruffed with CJ, spade ruff with C9, H10 ruffed perforce by C4 and overruffed with the queen. In the three card ending Wen Fei had C105 and a heart opposite CA2 and a diamond. By now, she had a complete count of the hand - North had one diamond, four hearts, four spades and thus four clubs to the king, confirming her suspicions that North must have CKxxx to not ruff the diamond. So she exited with the diamond throwing her heart, and North had to ruff and lead away from CK. An enormously satisfying ending in a World Championship Final.

END.